



FEMA



Prepared by
Jennifer McNatt

FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information.

To find your local NWS forecast office, go to www.weather.gov/srh.

Today

- Tropical Storm (or possibly Hurricane) Gordon will be approaching the SE LA coast late tonight. Tropical storm conditions could begin as early as this afternoon at the coast, progressing inland...but are generally expected this evening at the coast and progressing inland through the late evening and overnight.
 - Heavy rain is likely over SE LA beginning this afternoon.
 - Storm surge inundation of 3-5ft is possible along the open coast from Shell Beach eastward.
- Heavy rain/flash flooding remains possible over the Middle and Upper TX Coast, as well as SW through S-Central TX.

Wednesday

- Tropical Storm Gordon will be moving through MS and into NE LA throughout the day. Gusty winds are possible in/around the diminishing storm.
- Heavy rain/flash flooding is likely over SE LA and into NE LA and SE AR later in the day.
 - Some heavy rain/isolated flooding will be possible across much of LA and then into S AR late in the day.

Thursday - Friday

- The remnants of Gordon are likely to stall over the AR / E OK, continuing the heavy rain threat for this area.
- On Thursday, the heavy rain/flash flooding threat should be focused in SW AR. Some isolated heavy rain/flooding remains possible over much of LA, AR, E OK and NE TX.
- On Friday, the heavy rain/flash flooding threat should be focused over E OK/W AR.

Tropical Outlook

- Gordon is located about 230 miles ESE of the mouth of the MS River with maximum sustained winds of 65mph.
 - There will be an increasing threat of heavy rain/flash flooding and strong winds today in SE Louisiana (see later slides for details).
 - Gordon is expected to strengthen to a hurricane before making landfall along the central Gulf coast later tonight.
 - Tropical Storm Warnings are in effect from the mouth of the Pearl River to East of Morgan City, LA, including Lake Pontchartrain and Lake Maurepas, Hurricane warnings are in effect east of the mouth of the Pearl River.
- Tropical Storm Florence continues to move W-NW in the central Atlantic; no impacts to Region 6 are expected.
- A tropical wave located a few hundred miles S-SE of the Cabo Verde Islands is forecast to move slowly W to W-NW across the eastern tropical Atlantic for the next several days. Environmental conditions are expected to gradually become conducive for further development, and a tropical depression is likely to form by late this week or this weekend.
 - Formation chances in next 48 hours...low...20%
 - Formation chances in 5 days...high...70%

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Sept 4, 2018 – Sept 8, 2018



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DAY / THREAT	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Severe Storms					
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	TX Coast, SW through S-Cntrl TX	NE LA, SE AR	SW AR	E OK, W AR	
	SE LA	LA, S AR	AR, E OK LA, NETX		
Fire Weather					
Tropical Weather	SE LA	SE LA (early), E-Cntrl LA, NE LA/SE AR (late)			
River Flooding	SE LA	NE LA, SE AR	AR, N LA	E OK, W AR	

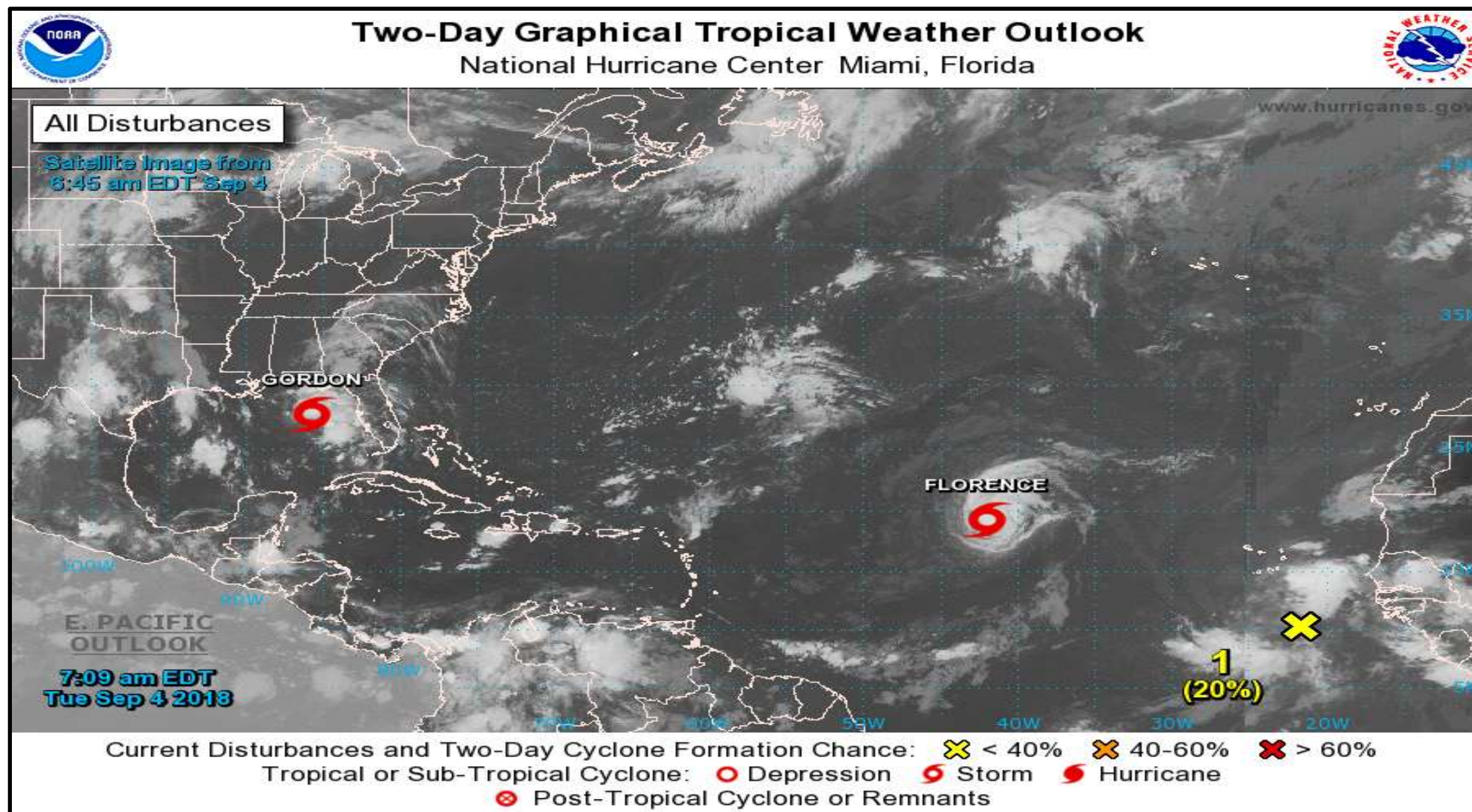
	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

**Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.
State or local threat level criteria may differ.*
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

Tropical Weather Outlook – Atlantic/Gulf



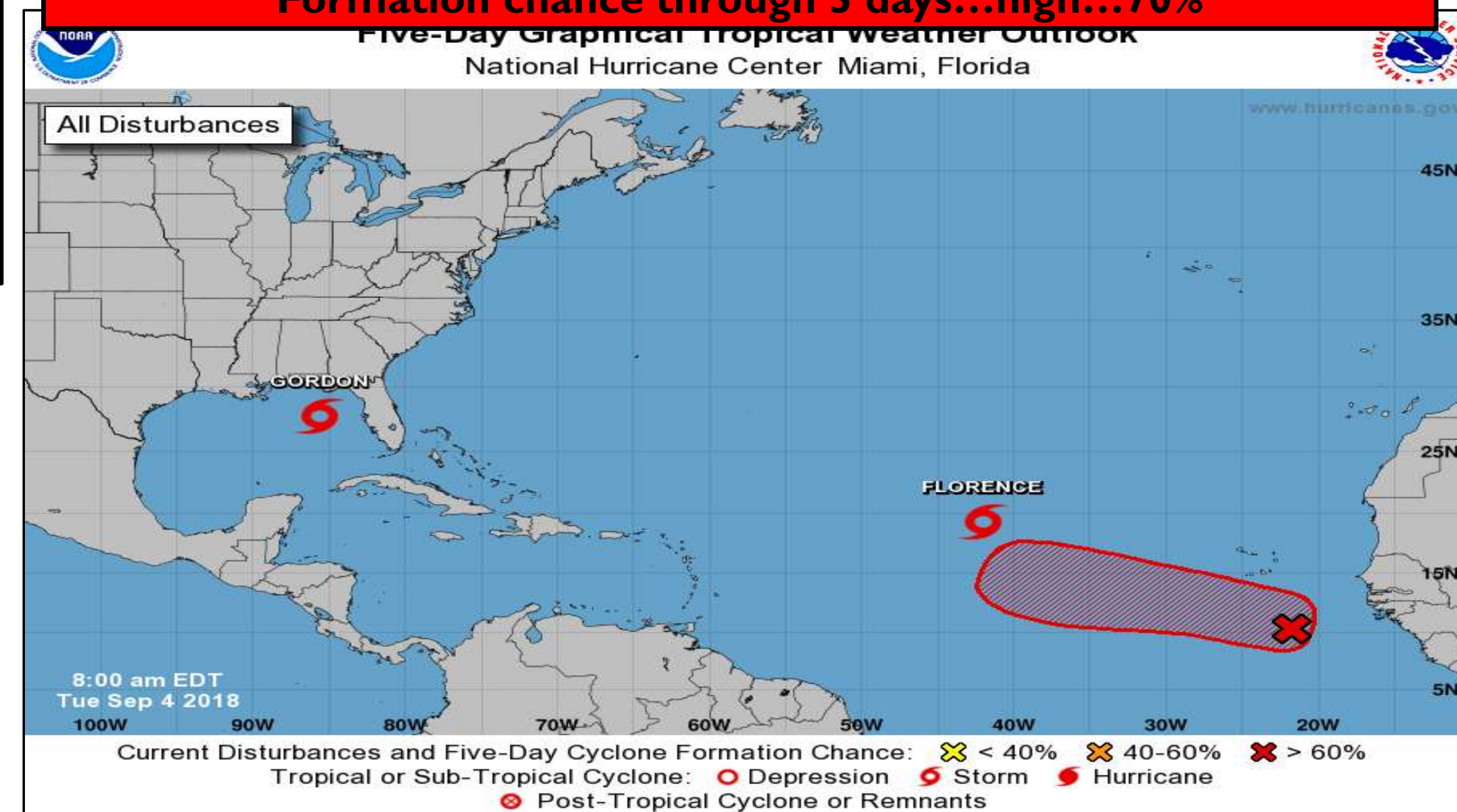
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A tropical wave located a few hundred miles S-SE of the Cabo Verde Islands is forecast to move slowly W to W-NW across the eastern tropical Atlantic for the next several days. Environmental conditions are expected to gradually become conducive for further development, and a tropical depression is likely to form by late this week or this weekend.

Formation chance through 48 hours...low...near 20%

Formation chance through 5 days...high...70%

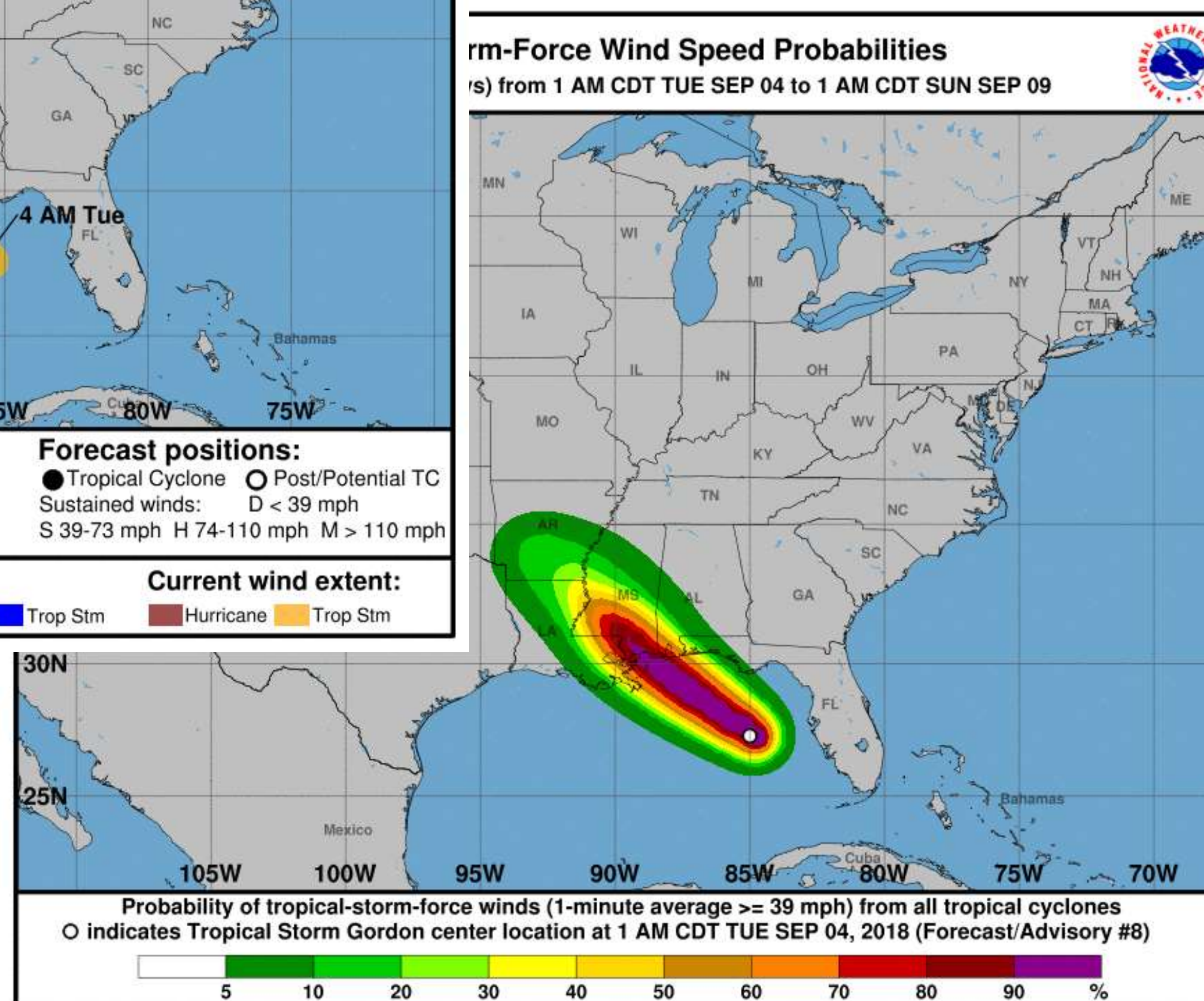
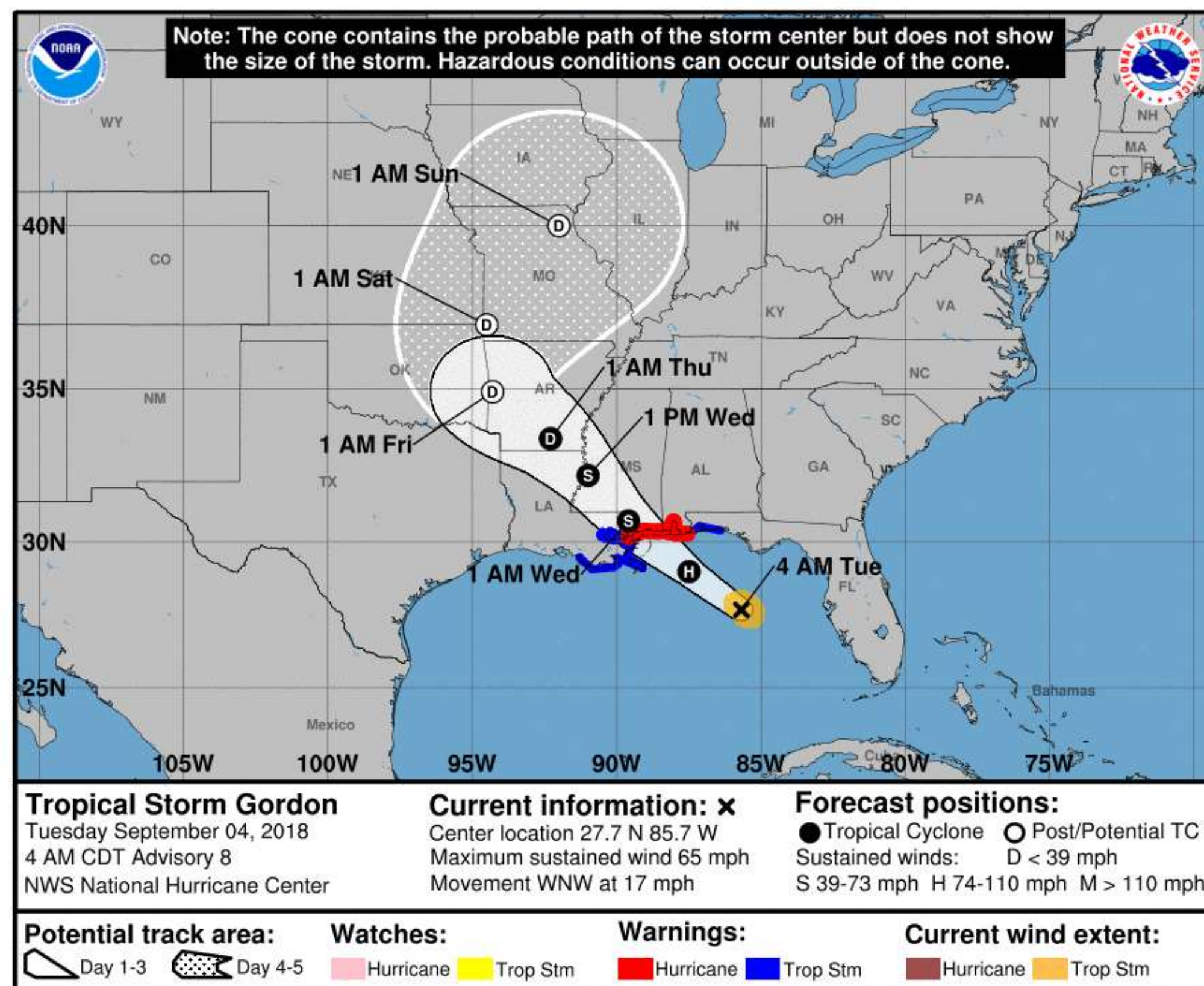


See next slides for more information on Tropical Storm Gordon and Tropical Storm Florence.

Tropical Storm Gordon



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Gordon is located about 230 miles ESE of the mouth of the MS River with maximum sustained winds of 65mph.

There will be an increasing threat of heavy rain/flash flooding and strong winds today in SE Louisiana (see later slides for details).

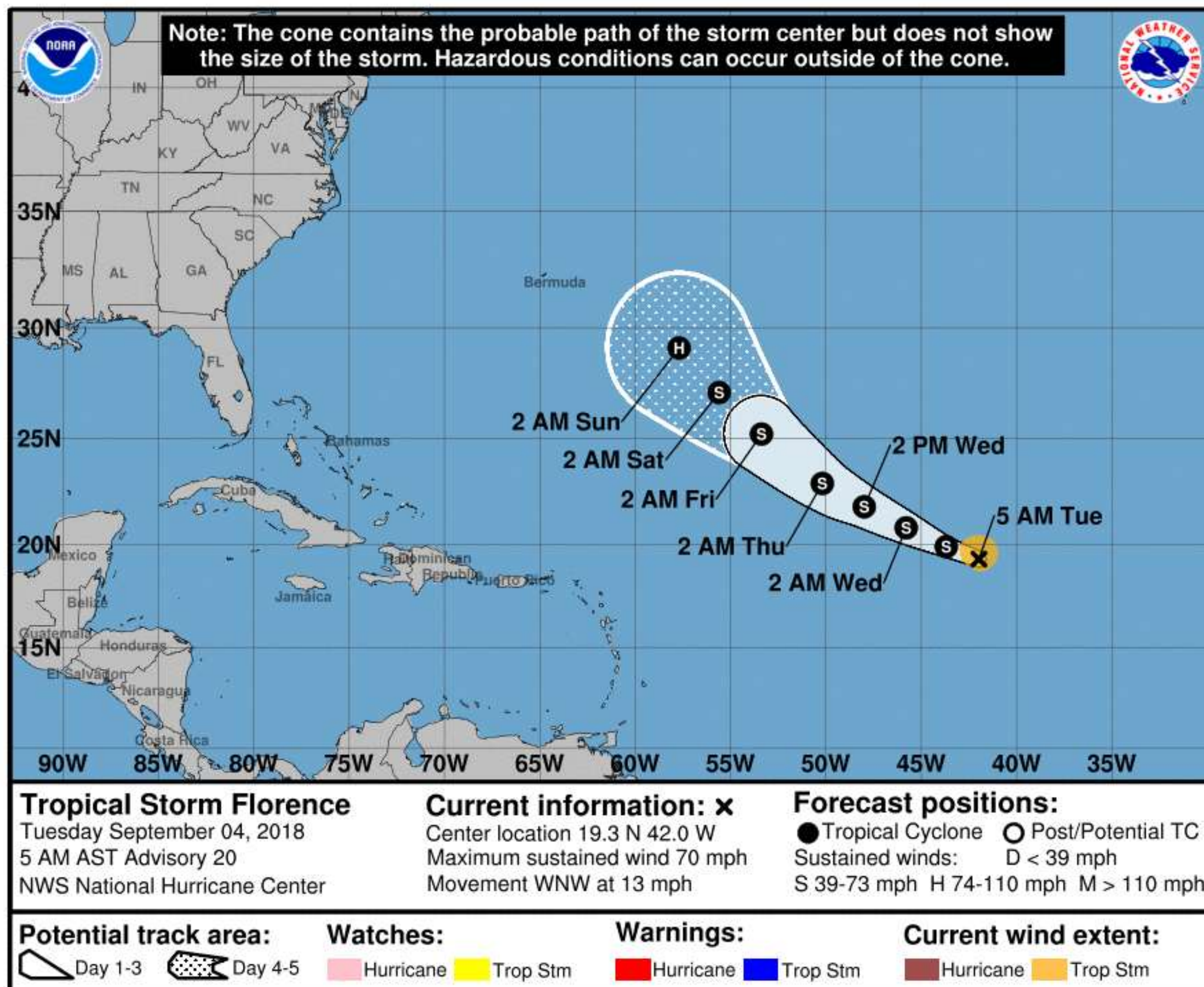
Gordon is expected to strengthen to a hurricane before making landfall along the central Gulf coast later tonight.

Tropical Storm Warnings are in effect from the mouth of the Pearl River to East of Morgan City, LA, including Lake Pontchartrain and Lake Maurepas.

Tropical Storm Florence



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Florence has maximum sustained winds of 70mph and is moving to the **WNW** at 13mph. It is expected to move generally westward to **W-NW** at a slightly slower forward speed for the next several days.

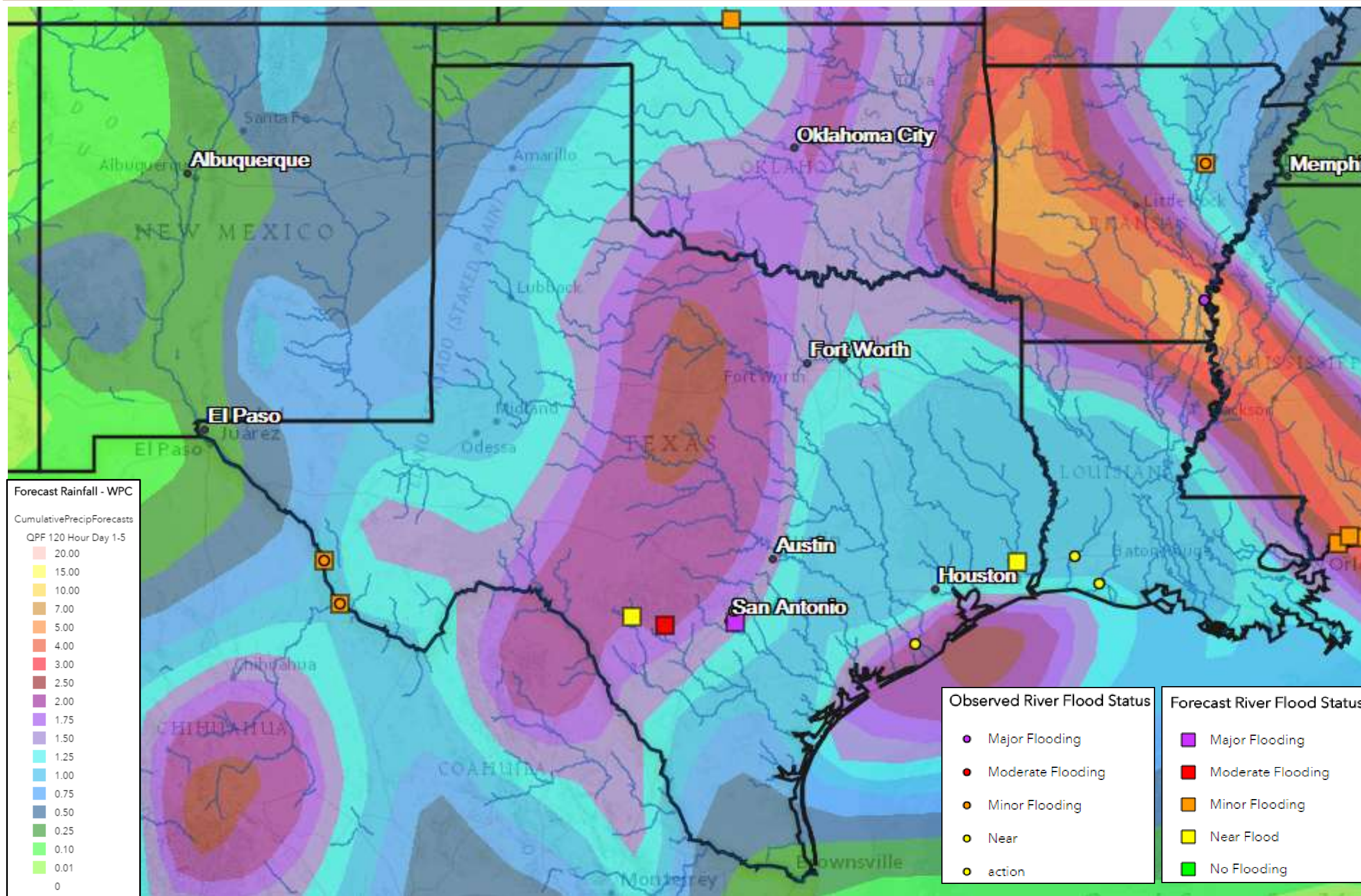
This system is not expected to cause impacts to **FEMA Region VI**.

5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall



A few locations in San Antonio and west of San Antonio (Sabinal River and Nueces River) quickly rose into minor or moderate flood overnight due to heavy rain, but have since dropped back below flood stage.

Portions of W-Central TX into Central OK will continue to see heavy rain potential today. A few isolated locations may see some minor river flooding, but widespread river flooding is not expected.

With the increase in moisture from Tropical Storm Gordon in the next few days, rivers in NE LA may see rises, possibly into the moderate category. There is high confidence in at least minor flooding on some rivers, although it is difficult to pinpoint exact basins at this point. Later in the week, as the remnants of Gordon move into AR, some additional river points may go into flood up there and in E OK.

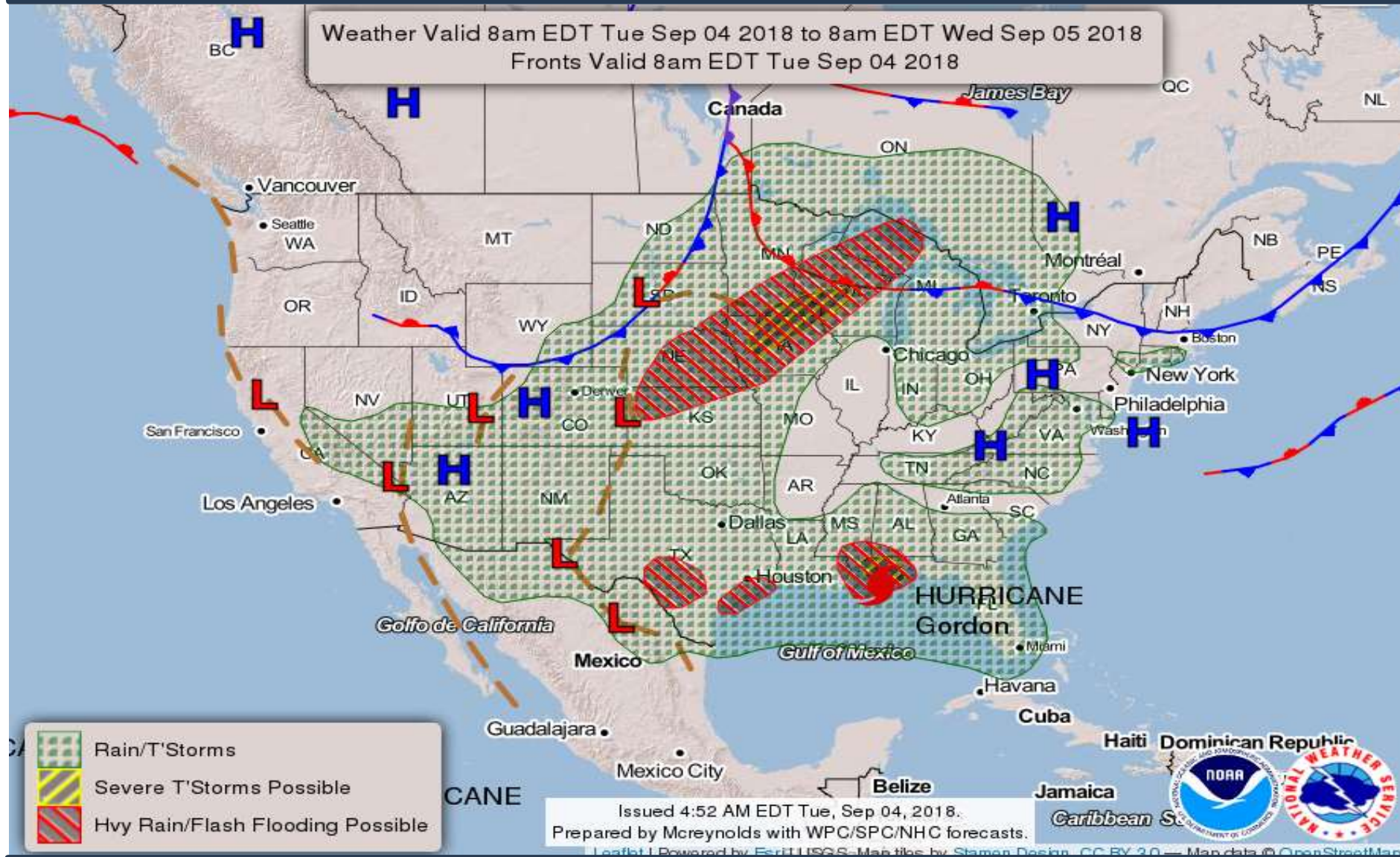
Today's Weather



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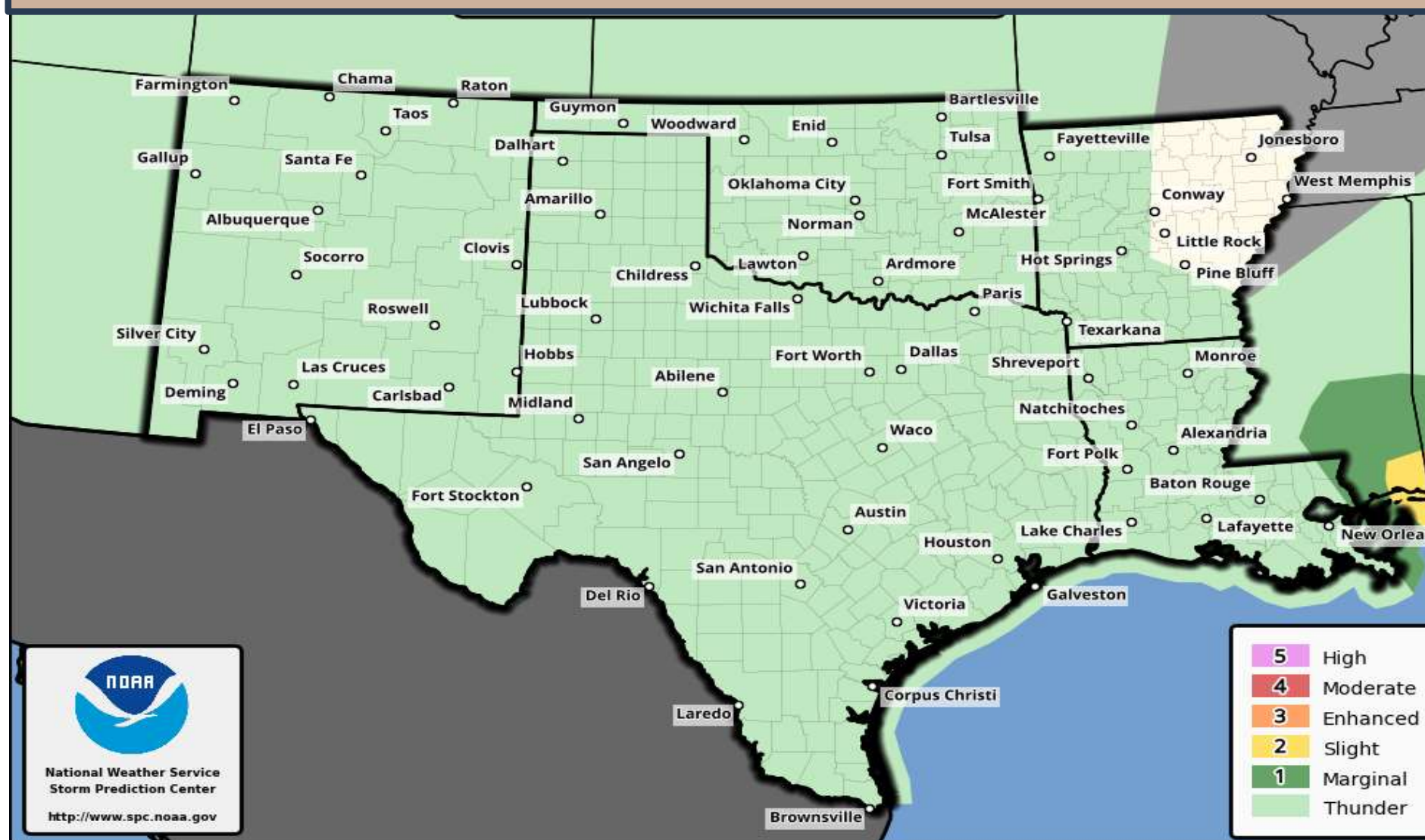
Forecast Chart



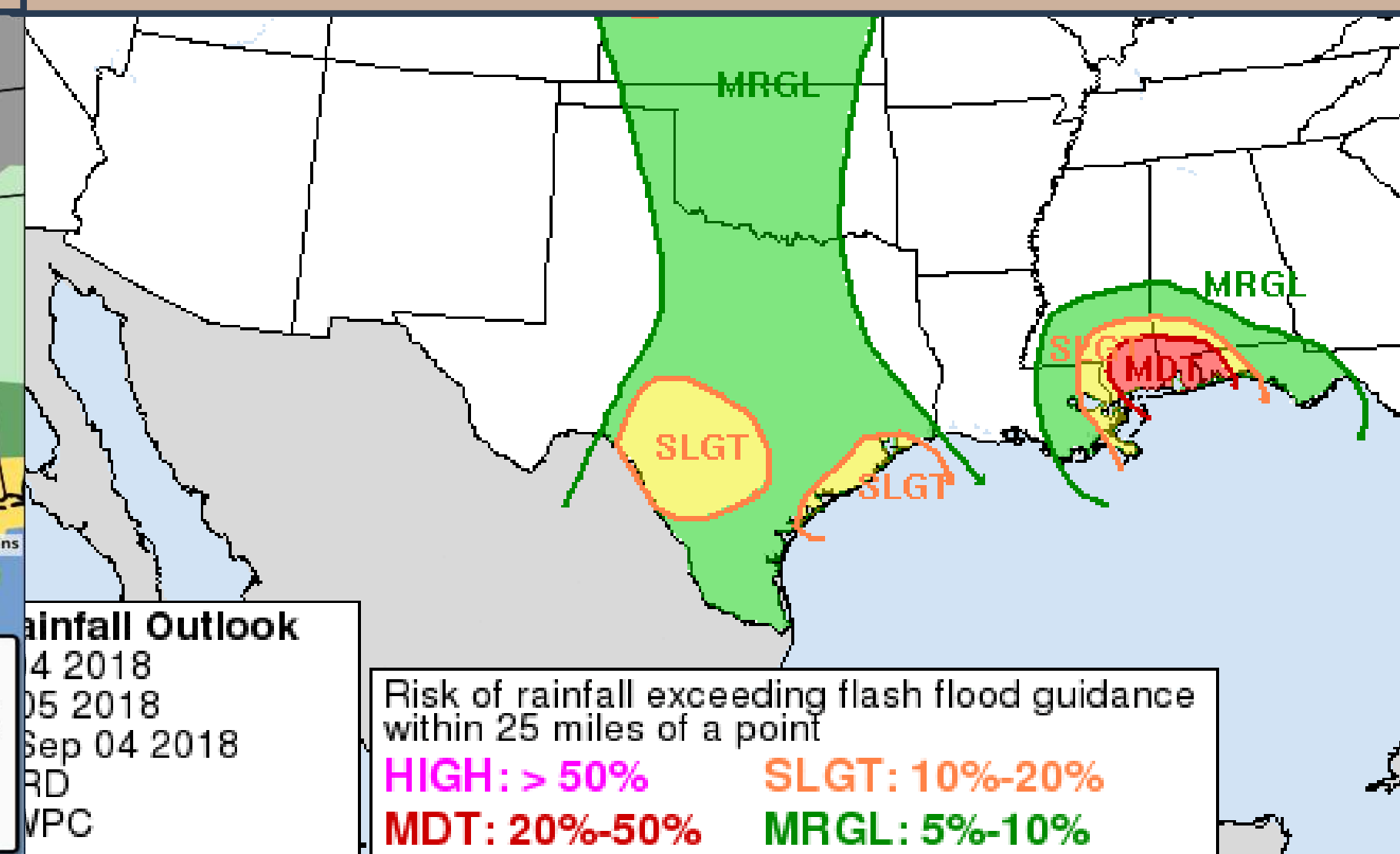
Forecast Rainfall



Severe Weather Outlook



Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Heavy rain/flash flooding remains possible over the Middle and Upper TX Coast, as well as SW through S-Central TX.

Tropical Storm (or possibly Hurricane) Gordon will be approaching the SE LA coast late tonight. Tropical storm conditions could begin as early as this afternoon at the coast, progressing inland...but are generally expected this evening at the coast and progressing inland through the late evening and overnight.

Heavy rain is likely over SE LA beginning this afternoon.

Storm surge inundation of 3-5ft is possible along the open coast from Shell Beach eastward.

Watches, Warnings, and Advisories



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Fire Weather



Graphic Created

Severe Weather & Flooding



Graphic Created

Flash flood watches are in effect for SW and Coastal TX through early afternoon today.

Flash flood watches are in effect for SE LA through Wednesday evening.

Strong & Gusty Winds



Graphic Created

Winter Weather



Graphic Created

Tomorrow's Weather



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Forecast Chart

Forecast Rainfall

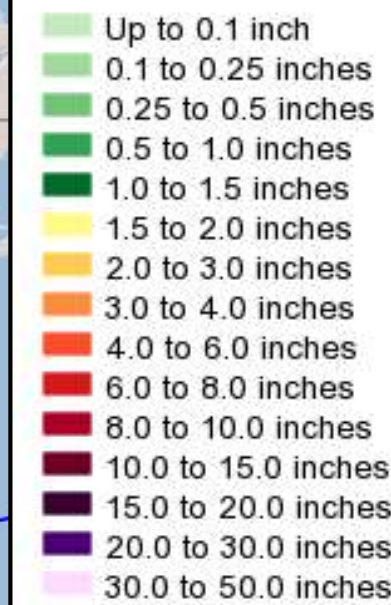
Tropical Storm Gordon will be moving through MS and into NE LA throughout the day. Gusty winds are possible in/around the diminishing storm.

Heavy rain/flash flooding is likely over SE LA and into NE LA and SE AR later in the day.

Some heavy rain/isolated flooding will be possible across much of LA and then into SAR late in the day.

Severe Weather Outlook

Excessive Rainfall Outlook



Rainfall Outlook
05 2018
06 2018
Sep 04 2018
WPC

Risk of rainfall exceeding flash flood guidance within 25 miles of a point
HIGH: > 50% **SLGT: 10%-20%**
MDT: 20%-50% **MRGL: 5%-10%**

Thursday's Weather



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Forecast Chart

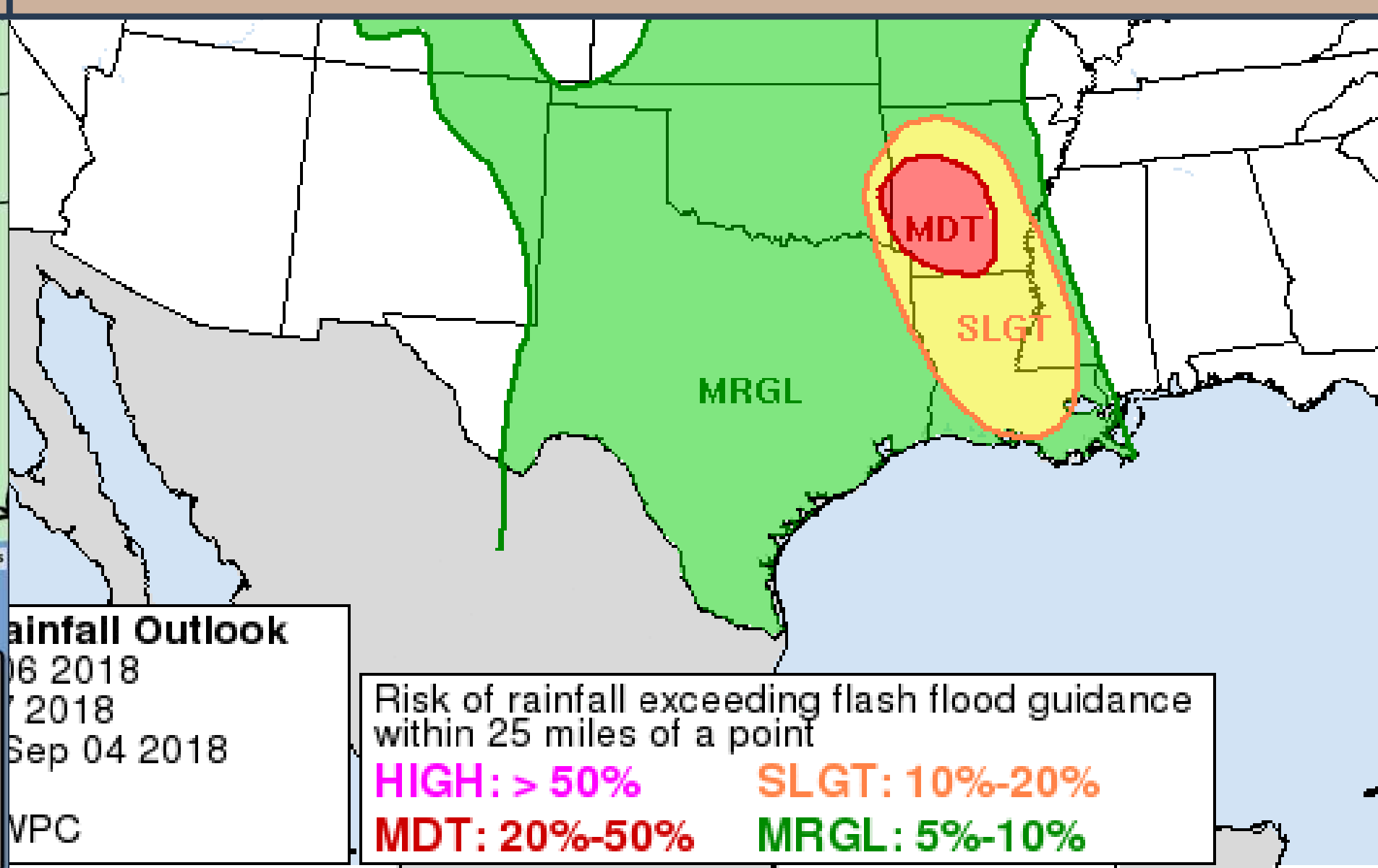
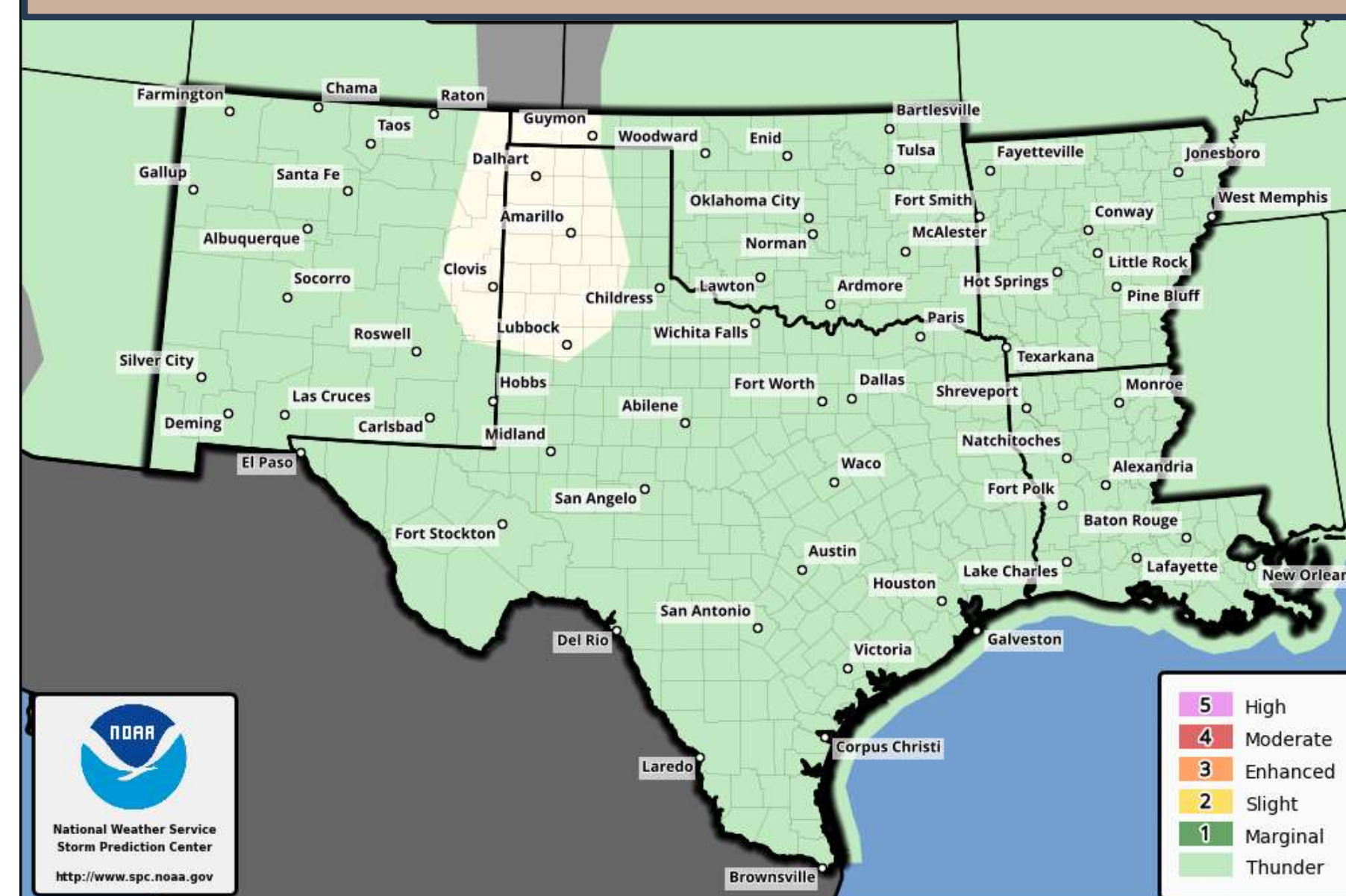
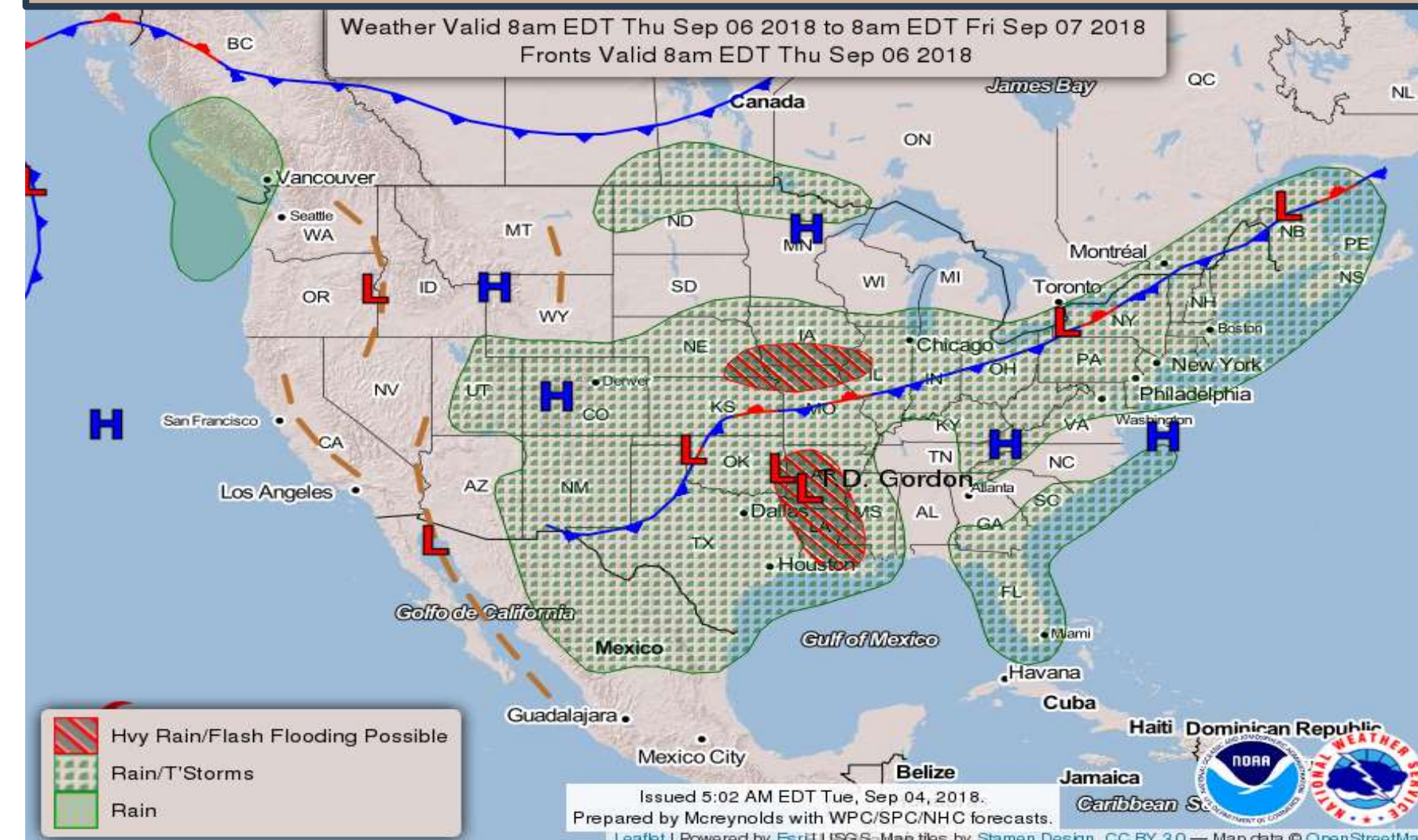
Forecast Rainfall

Heavy rain/flash flooding possible in SW AR as the remnants of Gordon remain over the area.

Some isolated heavy rain/flooding remains possible over much of LA, AR, E OK and NETX.

Severe Weather Outlook

Excessive Rainfall Outlook

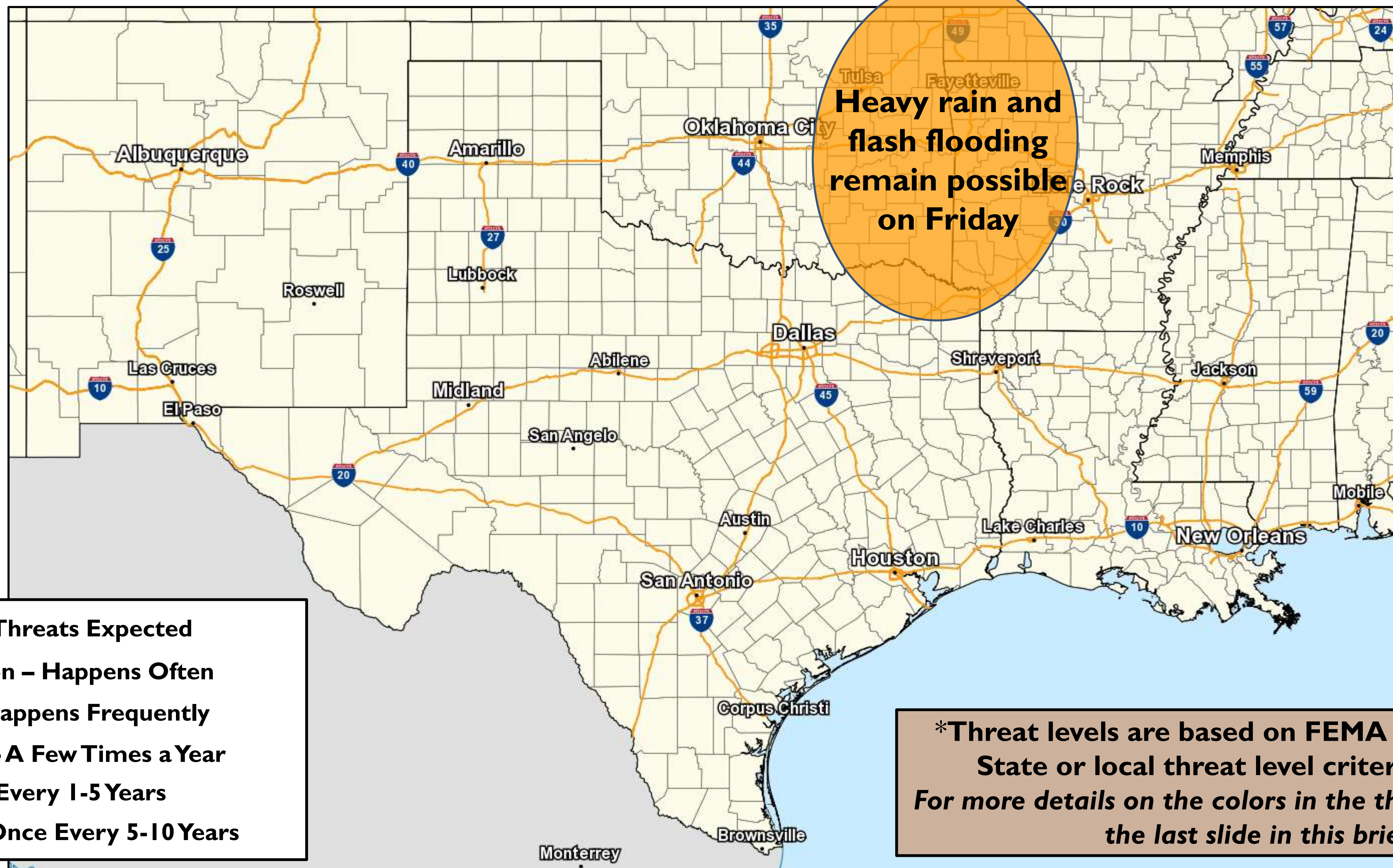


Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Friday - Saturday



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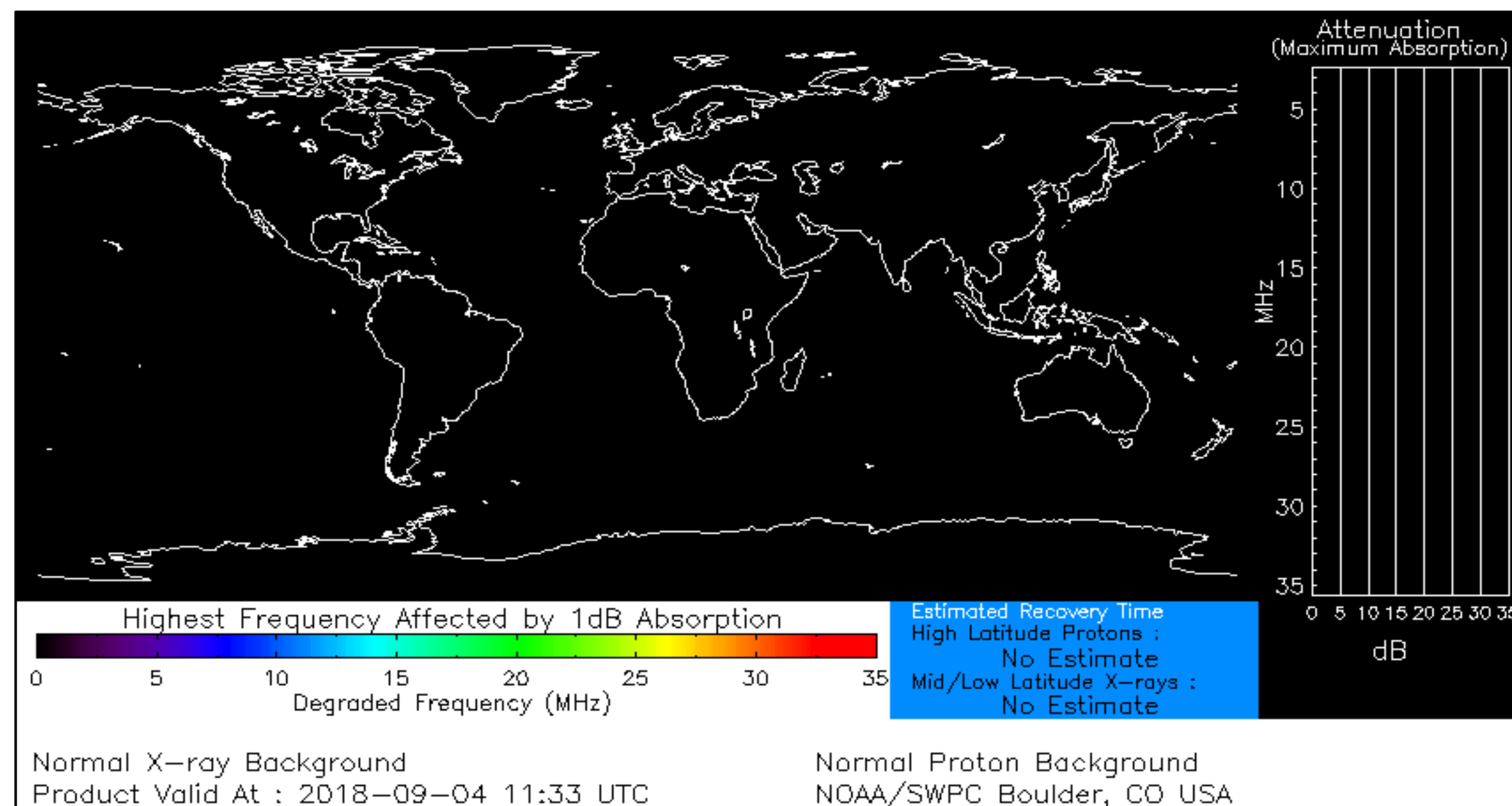


Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



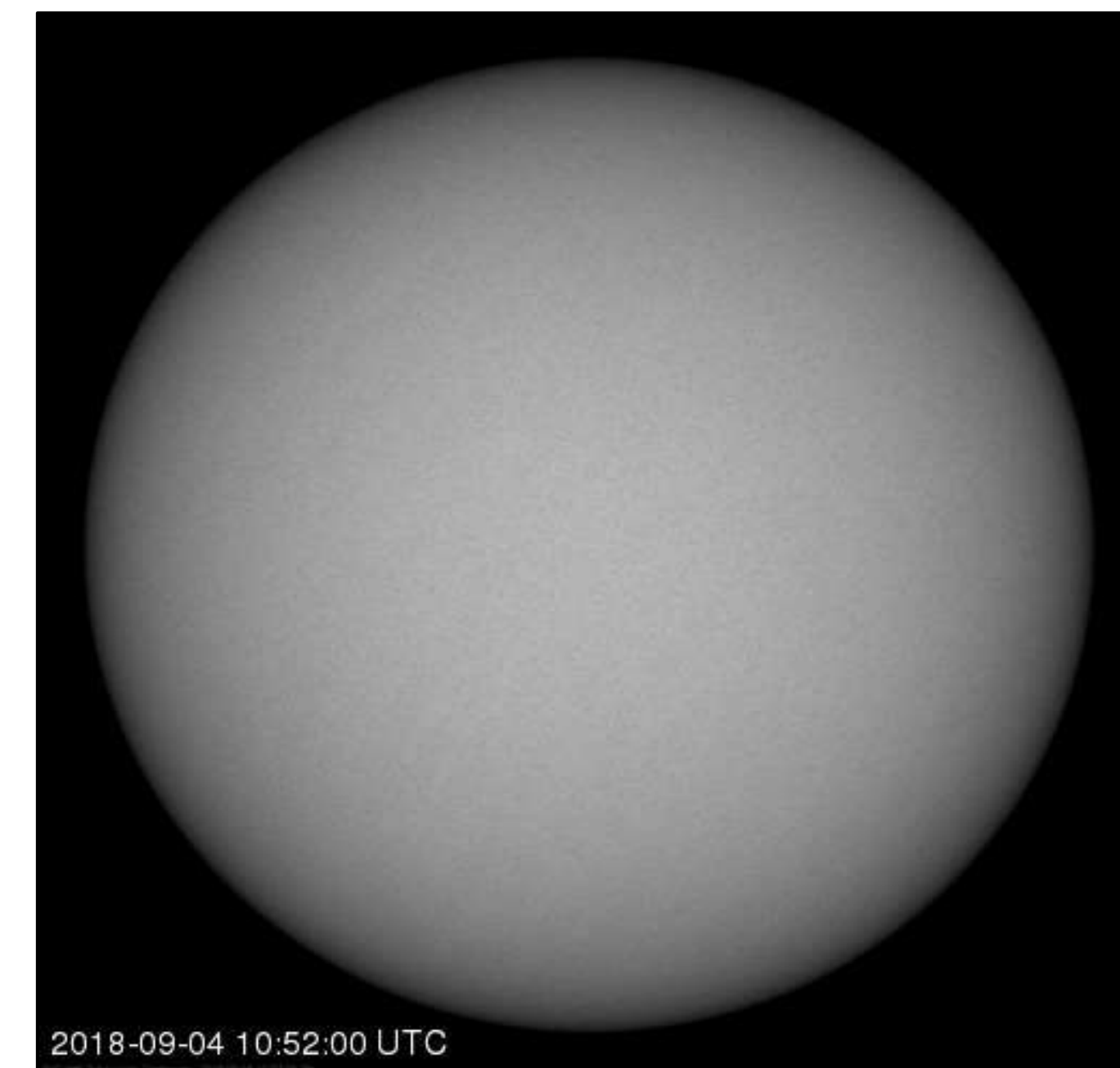
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	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)





For more information, please contact:

National Weather Service
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Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>



Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX
Yellow	Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail
Orange	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected
Red	Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue
Purple	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms

Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to

sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov